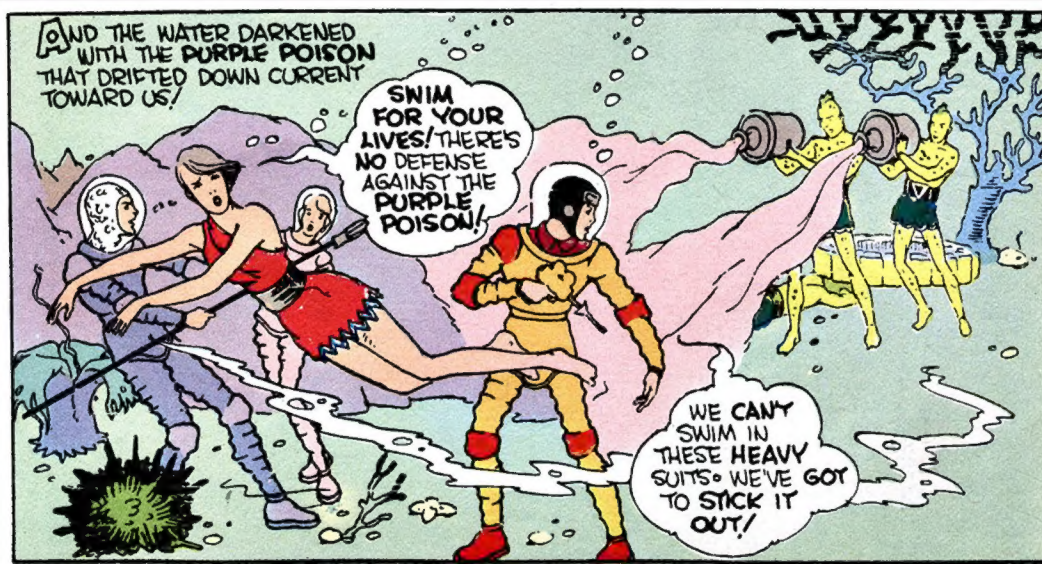


# Buck Rogers

25<sup>th</sup>  
CENTURY  
A.D.



Sunday Story 02

## "Fish Men of Planet X"

June 22, 1930 to September 7, 1930

Series I Strips 13 to 24

by Russell Keaton





**BUCK ROGERS**

WHO SLEPT 500 YEARS AND WOKE UP IN 2430 A.D. TO FIND A CHANGED WORLD AND A SERIES OF AMAZING ADVENTURES.

# BUCK ROGERS

2430 A.D.

*By Phil Nowlan and Dick Calkins*



**BUDDY DEERING**

BROTHER OF WILMA AND FRIEND OF BUCK ROGERS. WAS THE INVENTOR OF A FLYING BELT AND THE FIRST PERSON FROM EARTH EVER TO SET FOOT ON ANOTHER PLANET.



IN 2430 A.D. TIGER MEN VISITED EARTH. THEY TOOK ME BACK WITH THEM, A CAPTIVE, TO MARS.

SO THIS IS MARS!



I ESCAPED FROM THE TIGER MEN AND RESCUED ALURA, A PRINCESS OF THE GOLDEN PEOPLE.



AS A REWARD—ASK ANYTHING YOU WISH—

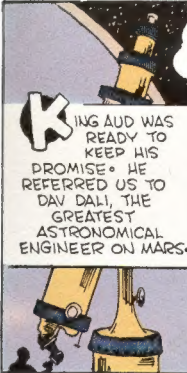
WE WANT A SPACE SHIP TO VISIT OTHER PLANETS.



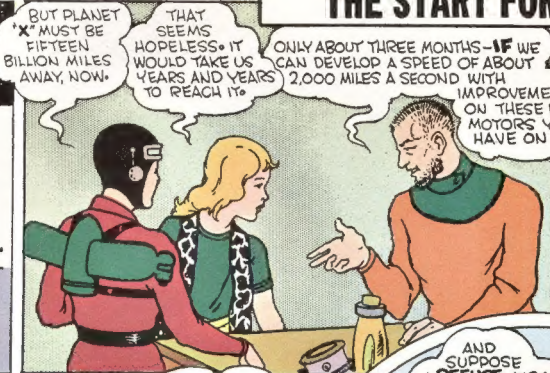
**WILMA DEERING**

A 25TH-CENTURY GIRL WHOSE COURAGE AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE MADE HER A FITTING AND LOYAL COMPANION TO BUCK IN HIS ADVENTURES.

## THE START FOR PLANET "X"



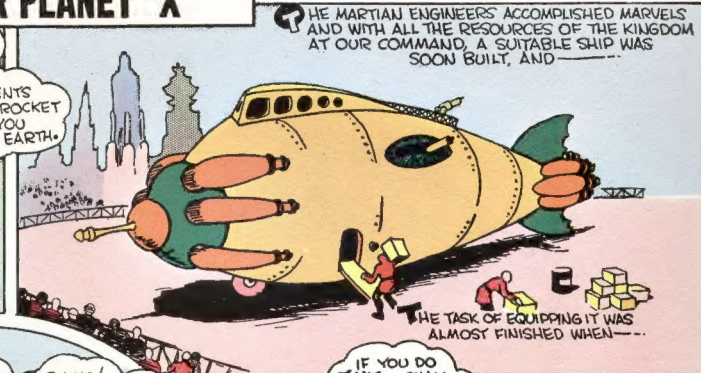
**K**ING AUD WAS READY TO KEEP HIS PROMISE. HE REFERRED US TO DAV DALI, THE GREATEST ASTRONOMICAL ENGINEER ON MARS.



BUT PLANET "X" MUST BE FIFTEEN BILLION MILES AWAY, NOW.

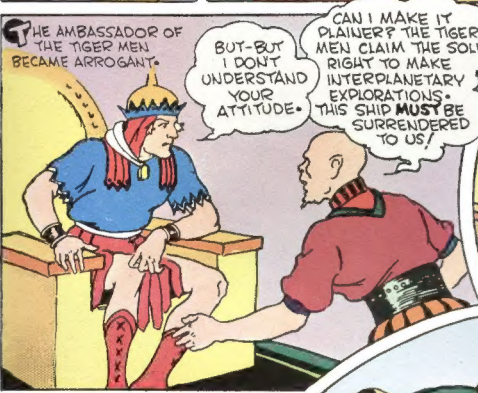
THAT SEEMS HOPELESS. IT WOULD TAKE US YEARS AND YEARS TO REACH IT.

ONLY ABOUT THREE MONTHS—IF WE CAN DEVELOP A SPEED OF ABOUT 2,000 MILES A SECOND WITH IMPROVEMENTS ON THESE ROCKET MOTORS YOU HAVE ON EARTH.



THE MARTIAN ENGINEERS ACCOMPLISHED MARVELS AND WITH ALL THE RESOURCES OF THE KINGDOM AT OUR COMMAND, A SUITABLE SHIP WAS SOON BUILT, AND—

THE TASK OF EQUIPPING IT WAS ALMOST FINISHED WHEN—



THE AMBASSADOR OF THE TIGER MEN BECAME ARROGANT.

BUT—BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR ATTITUDE.

CAN I MAKE IT PLAINER? THE TIGER MEN CLAIM THE SOLE RIGHT TO MAKE INTERPLANETARY EXPLORATIONS. THIS SHIP MUST BE SURRENDERED TO US!



AND SUPPOSE I REFUSE. JUST WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?—DECLARE WAR?

OH NO! HARDLY NECESSARY. WE'LL JUST DESTROY THE SHIP.



IF YOU DO THAT I SHALL DECLARE WAR ON YOUR PEOPLE!

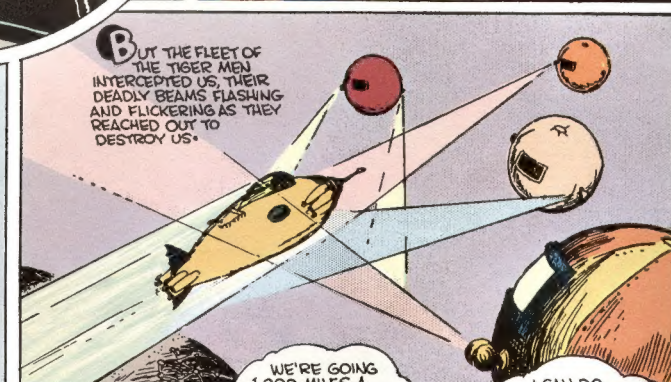
I DOUBT IT! WE DOMINATE MARS. ABSOLUTELY—AND YOU KNOW IT!



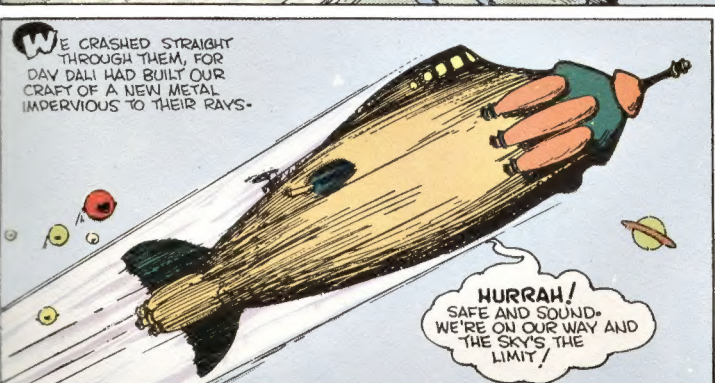
**W**E THOUGHT TO STEAL A MARCH ON THE TIGER MEN. WE RUSHED ABOARD. WITH A ROAR OUR POWERFUL SHIP SHOT SKYWARD.

FULL SPEED AHEAD! CLOSE ALL PORTS!

SPEED INDICATOR 500 MILES PER MINUTE, SIR!



**B**UT THE FLEET OF THE TIGER MEN INTERCEPTED US. THEIR DEADLY BEAMS FLASHING AND FLICKERING AS THEY REACHED OUT TO DESTROY US.



**W**E CRASHED STRAIGHT THROUGH THEM, FOR DAV DALI HAD BUILT OUR CRAFT OF A NEW METAL IMPERVIOUS TO THEIR RAYS.

HURRAH! SAFE AND SOUND. WE'RE ON OUR WAY AND THE SKY'S THE LIMIT!



SEVERAL DAYS LATER WE HEADED INTO THE BELT OF PLANETOLDS THAT LIES BEYOND MARS.

WE'RE GOING 1,000 MILES A SECOND ALREADY! OH DAY! DO SOMETHING!

I CAN DO NOTHING! IT'S UP TO THE SHIP ITSELF!

HOW CAN WE DODGE THEM?

ESCAPE FROM COLLISION SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE!



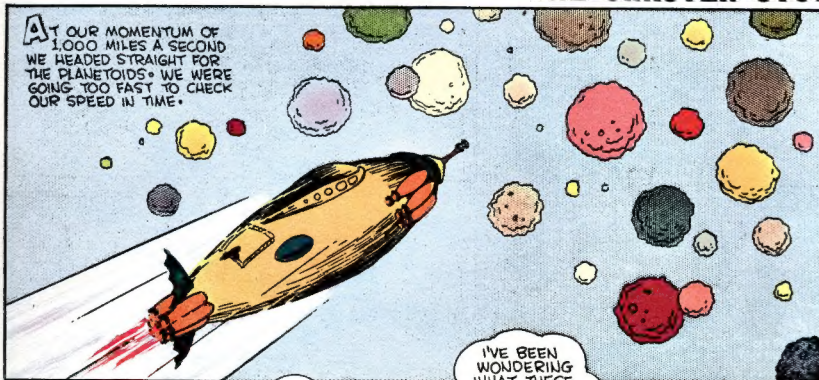
# Buck Rogers

DEAR READER:  
WE HAD SHOT AWAY FROM MARS ON OUR JOURNEY TOWARD PLANET "X," CRASHING THROUGH THE FLEET OF TIGER SPACE SHIPS WHICH TRIED TO STOP US. WE SEEMED DOOMED WHEN WE HIT THE BELT OF PLANETOIDS THAT LIES BEYOND MARS. HOW COULD WE DODGE THROUGH THESE FRAGMENTS OF MATTER SWINGING SWIFTLY THROUGH SPACE?

Buddy Daring

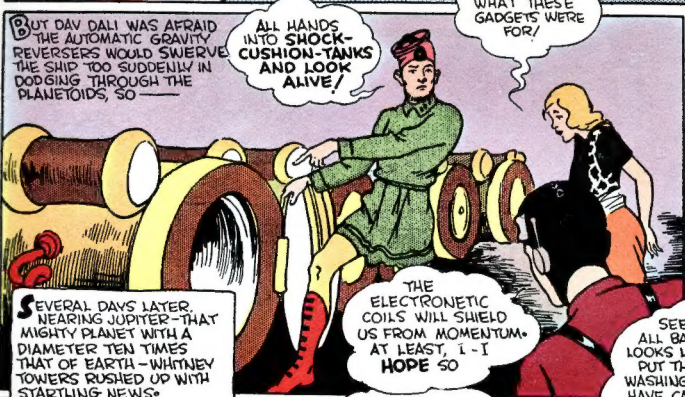
PHIL NOWLAN  
AND  
DICK CALKINS

## THE SINISTER STOWAWAY



AT OUR MOMENTUM OF 1,000 MILES A SECOND WE HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE PLANETOIDS. WE WERE GOING TOO FAST TO CHECK OUR SPEED IN TIME.

I'VE BEEN WONDERING WHAT THESE GADGETS WERE FOR!



ALL HANDS INTO SHOCK-CUSHION-TANKS AND LOOK ALIVE!

BUT DAV DALI WAS AFRAID THE AUTOMATIC GRAVITY REVERSERS WOULD SWERVE THE SHIP TOO SUDDENLY IN DODGING THROUGH THE PLANETOIDS, SO

SEVERAL DAYS LATER, NEARING JUPITER—THAT MIGHTY PLANET WITH A DIAMETER TEN TIMES THAT OF EARTH—WHITNEY TOWERS RUSHED UP WITH STARTLING NEWS.

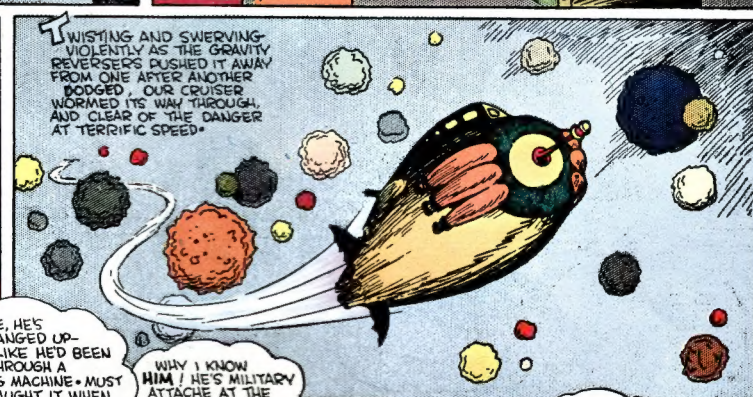
THE ELECTRONIC COILS WILL SHIELD US FROM MOMENTUM. AT LEAST, I—I HOPE SO

YEAH! A TIGER MAN TOO. I FOUND HIM AMONG THE SUPPLIES, UNCONSCIOUS! COME ON!

WHERE?



WHAT'S THAT?—A STOWAWAY ON BOARD?



TWISTING AND SWERVING VIOLENTLY AS THE GRAVITY REVERSERS PUSHED IT AWAY FROM ONE AFTER ANOTHER DODGED, OUR CRUISER WORMED ITS WAY THROUGH AND CLEAR OF THE DANGER AT TERRIFIC SPEED.

SEE, HE'S ALL BANGED UP—LOOKS LIKE HE'D BEEN PUT THROUGH A WASHING MACHINE. MUST HAVE CAUGHT IT WHEN WE DODGED THROUGH THOSE PLANETOIDS.

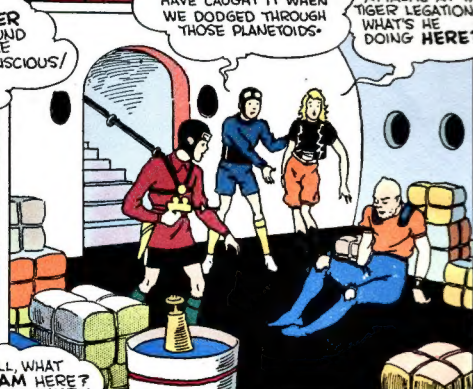
WHY I KNOW HIM! HE'S MILITARY ATTACHE AT THE TIGER LEGATION. WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?

WHEN HE FINALLY RECOVERED CONSCIOUSNESS.

WHERE AM I? HOW DID I GET HERE? WHERE IS THIS SHIP GOING?

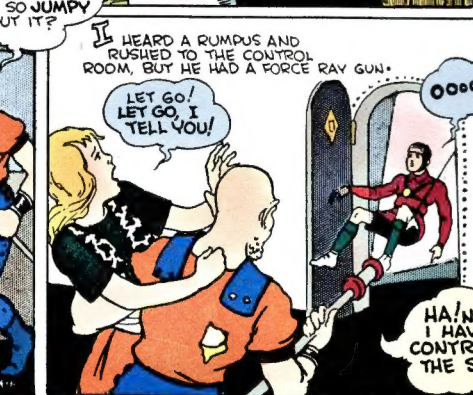
YOU'VE GOT A LONG, LONG VIBR AHEAD OF YOU, BROTHER. YOU BETTER TAKE IT EASY.

SH! DON'T TRUST HIM, BUDDY!



WELL, WHAT IF I AM HERE? WHY SO JUMPY ABOUT IT?

GET OUT OF HERE!! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT—



I HEARD A RUMPS AND RUSHED TO THE CONTROL ROOM, BUT HE HAD A FORCE RAY GUN.

LET GO! LET GO, I TELL YOU!

OOOF!

HA! NOW I HAVE CONTROL OF THE SHIP!



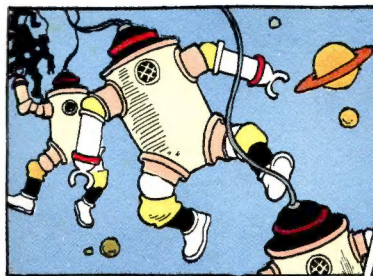
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

THAT STOWAWAY! HE'S GOT ALURA! HE'S BARRICADED HIMSELF IN THERE!—HE'S GOT CONTROL OF THE SHIP!

DICK CALKINS

(14)





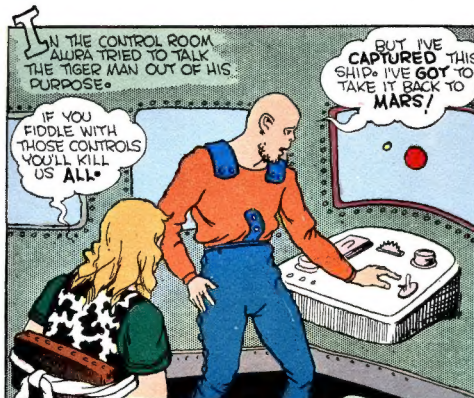
DEAR READER:  
ON WE SPED AT 2,000 MILES A SECOND—BEYOND MARS—PAST MIGHTY JUPITER WHERE IT SWUNG THROUGH SPACE 495 MILLION MILES FROM THE SUN—ON—ON—TOWARD PLANET X! NOTHING CHECKED OUR FLASHING SPEED—FOR IN OUTER SPACE THERE WAS NO ATMOSPHERE TO HOLD US BACK! BUT A LONE TIGER MAN HAD STOWED AWAY ABOARD OUR CRAFT. HE HAD BARRICADED HIMSELF IN THE CONTROL ROOM AND—WE WERE AT HIS MERCY!!

*Buddy Deering*

# BUCK ROGERS

By  
PHIL NOWLAN  
AND  
DICK CALKINS

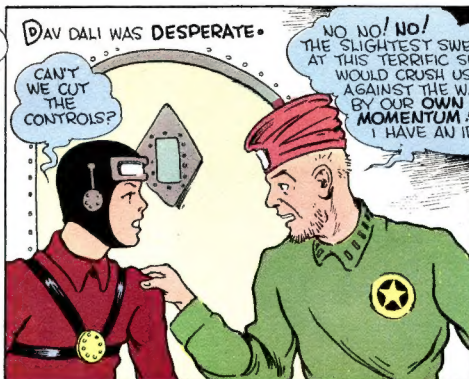
## THE STRANGE SPACE SHIP



IN THE CONTROL ROOM ALURA TRIED TO TALK THE TIGER MAN OUT OF HIS PURPOSE.

IF YOU FIDDLE WITH THOSE CONTROLS YOU'LL KILL US ALL.

BUT I'VE CAPTURED THIS SHIP. I'VE GOT TO TAKE IT BACK TO MARS!



DAV DALI WAS DESPERATE.

CAN'T WE CUT THE CONTROLS?

NO NO! NO! THE SLIGHTEST SWERVE AT THIS TERRIFIC SPEED WOULD CRUSH US AGAINST THE WALLS BY OUR OWN MOMENTUM! AH, I HAVE AN IDEA.



WE THOUGHT DAV'S PLAN WAS WORTH TRYING.

REMEMBER! ALURA'S IN THERE—IN THAT BRUTES' POWER!

—STILL I'M AFRAID NO DRILL WILL BITE INTO THAT METAL.



THE DRILL POINT ONLY MELTED. THAT'S WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF.

WHAT WE NEED IS A DISINTEGRATOR RAY! TOO DANGEROUS—MIGHT HIT ALURA WITH IT.



COULD STAND IT NO LONGER.

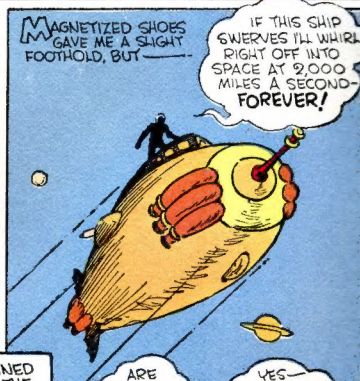
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

GET INTO A SPACE SUIT—CRAWL UP OUTSIDE—SMASH THE CONTROL ROOM WINDOW!



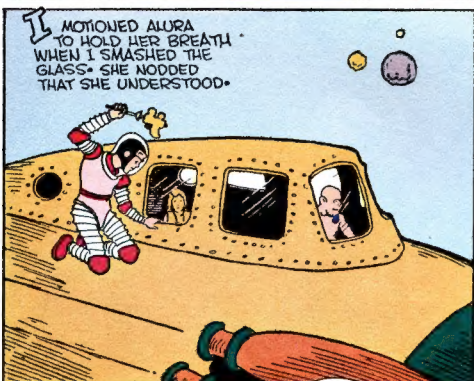
OUT I WENT, THROUGH THE AIR-LOCK.

IF I MANAGE THIS IT'S BECAUSE I'M A FOOL FOR LUCK!



MAGNETIZED SHOES GAVE ME A SLIGHT FOOTHOLD, BUT—

IF THIS SHIP SWERVES IT WILL WHIRL RIGHT OFF INTO SPACE AT 2,000 MILES A SECOND—FOREVER!



I MOTIONED ALURA TO HOLD HER BREATH WHEN I SMASHED THE GLASS. SHE NODDED THAT SHE UNDERSTOOD.

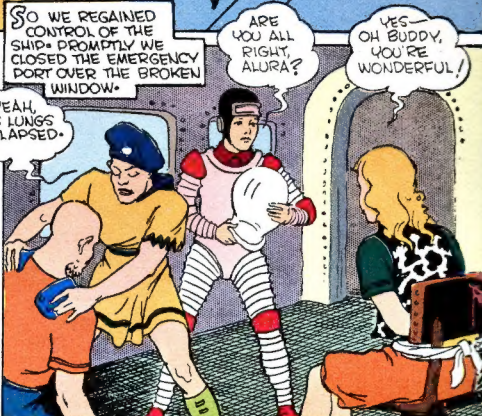


OUT I RUSHED THE AIR INTO THE VACUUM OF SPACE. I DASHED FOR THE BOLTED DOOR.

UP—P—GH! GLUB UGH!

HOW TO OPEN THAT DOOR AND GET AIR IN HERE QUICK!

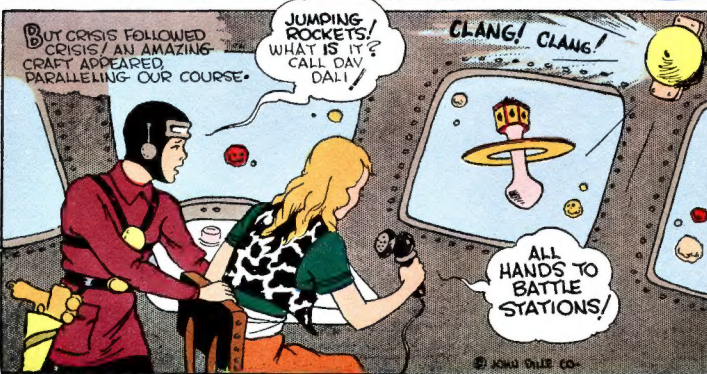
YEAH, HIS LUNGS COLLAPSED.



SO WE REGAINED CONTROL OF THE SHIP. PROMPTLY WE CLOSED THE EMERGENCY PORT OVER THE BROKEN WINDOW.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, ALURA?

YES—OH BUDDY, YOU'RE WONDERFUL!

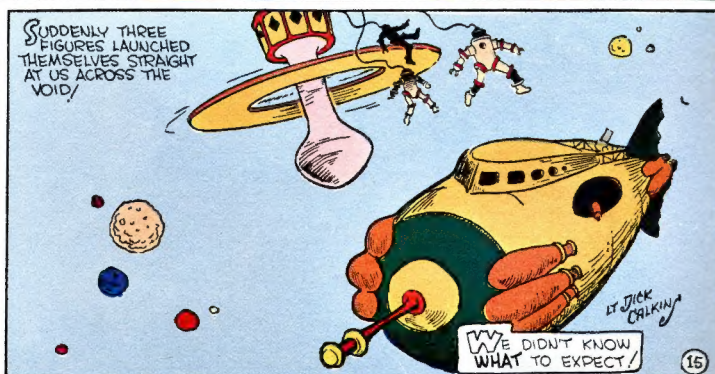


BUT CRISIS FOLLOWED CRISIS! AN AMAZING CRAFT APPEARED PARALLELING OUR COURSE.

JUMPING ROCKETS! WHAT IS IT? CALL DAV DALI!

CLANG! CLANG!

ALL HANDS TO BATTLE STATIONS!



SUDDENLY THREE FIGURES LAUNCHED THEMSELVES STRAIGHT AT US ACROSS THE VOID!

WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT!



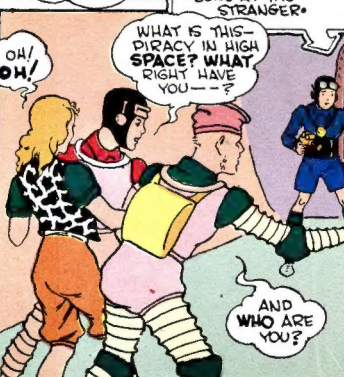
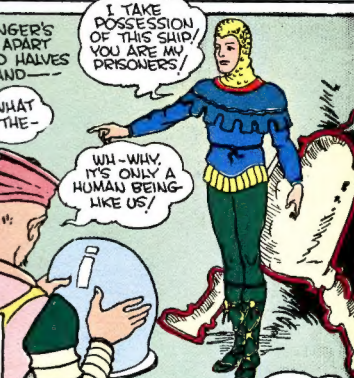
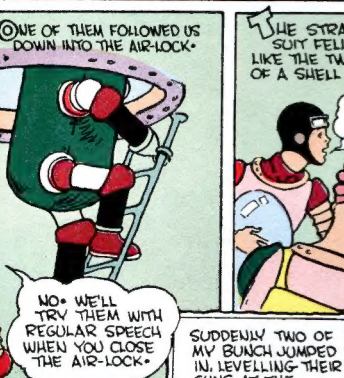
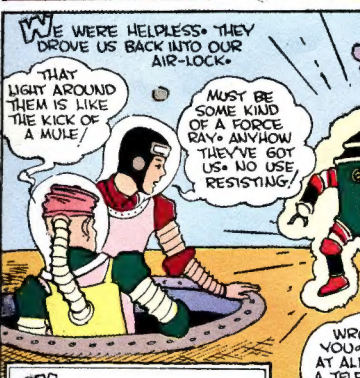
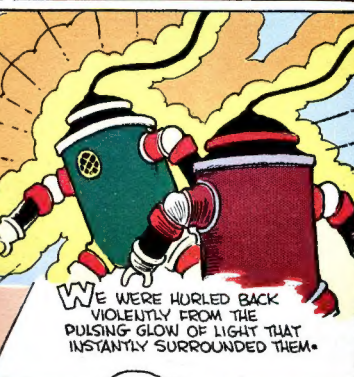
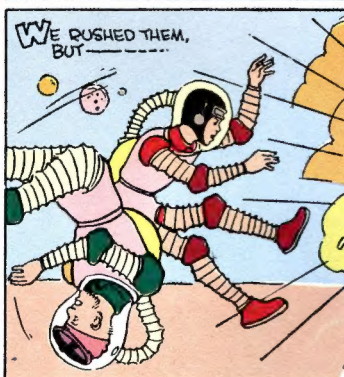
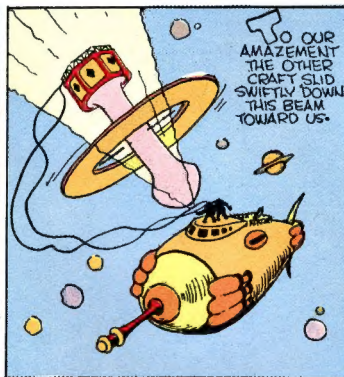
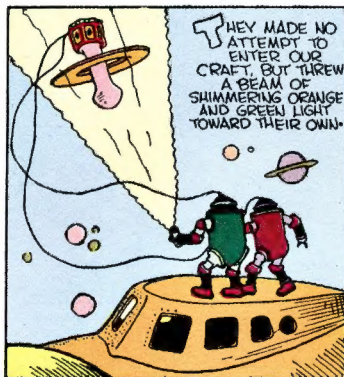
# BUCK ROGERS

DEAR READER:  
ALURA, A PRINCESS OF THE GOLDEN PEOPLE OF MARS, AND I WERE FLASHING THROUGH SPACE AT THE UNBELIEVABLE SPEED OF 2,000 MILES A SECOND ON OUR WAY TO EXPLORE PLANET "X," WHICH IN 2430 A.D. WAS ABOUT 15 BILLION MILES AWAY ON ITS ELLIPTIC ORBIT. WE HAD COVERED ABOUT A THIRTIETH OF THE DISTANCE, AND PASSED JUPITER, WHEN WE FOUND A MYSTERIOUS CRAFT PARALLELING OUR COURSE THROUGH SPACE. SUDDENLY STARTLING FIGURES HAD LAUNCHED THEMSELVES AT US ACROSS THE VOID.

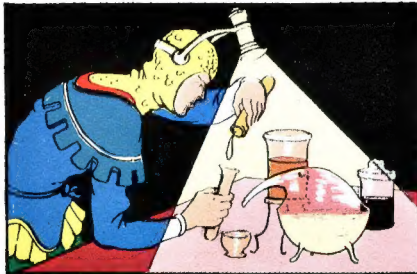
Buddy Steering

By PAUL HOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

## MASTERS OF THE RAY







DEAR READER:  
HERE WE WERE—EARTHLINGS AND MARTIANS—OUR ROCKET-SHIP FLASHING ON THROUGH SPACE TOWARD PLANET "X" AT 2000 MILES A SECOND—YET WE WERE HELPLESS PRISONERS OF STRANGE MEN WHO COMMANDED IRRESISTIBLE FORCES OF NATURE—WHO COULD READ OUR VERY THOUGHTS AND PROJECT THEIR OWN INTO OUR MINDS—WHO DESPITE OUR TERRIFIC SPEED HAD EASILY BROUGHT THEIR MYSTERICIOUS SPACE CRAFT ALONGSIDE AND BOARDED US—WHENCE HAD THEY COME? WHAT DID THEY WANT OF US?

Buddy Dering

# BUCK ROGERS

2430 A.D.

By PAUL NOWLAN and DICK CAIKINS

## PRISONERS OF SATURN

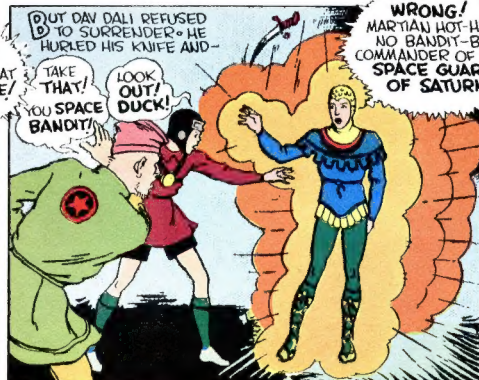


IN OUR CONTROL CABIN THE STRANGER DOMINATED US BY SHEER WILL POWER. HE SPOKE NO WORD—BUT WE UNDERSTOOD.

PUT UP YOUR GUNS, BOYS—WE'RE LICKED.

HE'D KNOW EVERYTHING WE WERE GOING TO DO BEFORE WE DID IT.

YOU ARE WISE—ALL BUT THAT MAN THERE!



BUT DAVE DALI REFUSED TO SURRENDER—HE HURLED HIS KNIFE AND—

TAKE THAT!

LOOK OUT! DUCK!

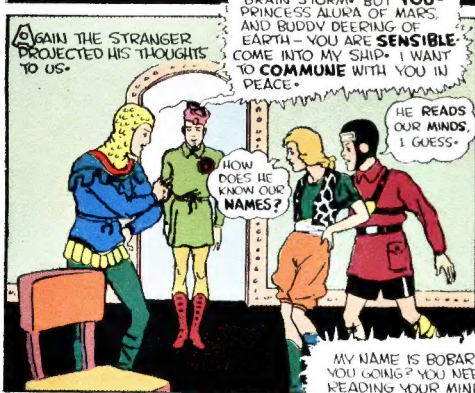
YOU SPACE BANDIT!

WRONG!

MARTIAN HOT-HEAD! NO BANDIT—BUT COMMANDER OF THE SPACE GUARD OF SATURN!

UR-R-R—GH?!!

THIS HYPNO-PARALYSIS RAY WILL KEEP YOU QUIET FOR A WHILE!

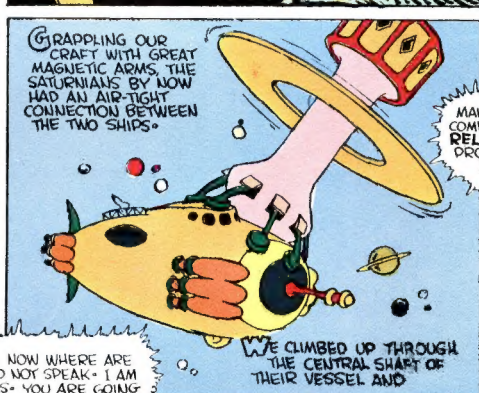


AGAIN THE STRANGER PROJECTED HIS THOUGHTS TO US.

THIS MARTIAN HAS A BRAIN STORM. BUT YOU—PRINCESS ALUNA OF MARS, AND BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH—YOU ARE SENSIBLE. COME INTO MY SHIP—I WANT TO COMMUNE WITH YOU IN PEACE.

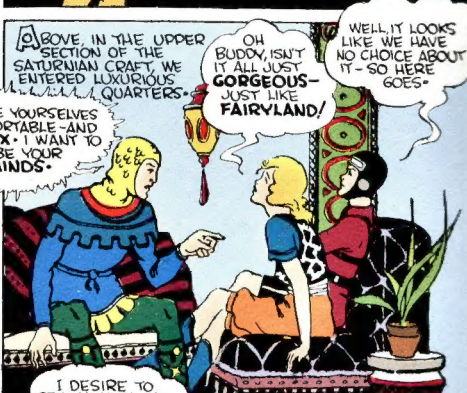
HOW DOES HE KNOW OUR NAMES?

HE READS OUR MINDS, I GUESS.



GRAPPLING OUR CRAFT WITH GREAT MAGNETIC ARMS, THE SATURNIANS BY NOW HAD AN AIR-TIGHT CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TWO SHIPS.

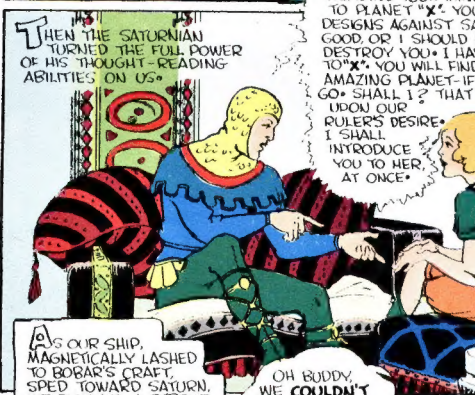
WE CLIMBED UP THROUGH THE CENTRAL SHAFT OF THEIR VESSEL AND



ABOVE, IN THE UPPER SECTION OF THE SATURNIAN CRAFT, WE ENTERED LUXURIOUS QUARTERS.

OH BUDDY, ISN'T IT ALL JUST GORGEOUS—JUST LIKE FAIRYLAND!

WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE NO CHOICE ABOUT IT—SO HERE WE GOES.



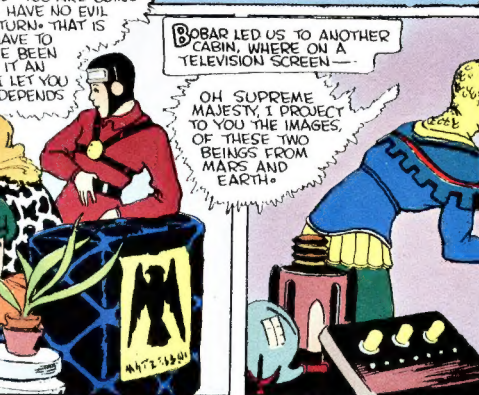
THEN THE SATURNIAN TURNED THE FULL POWER OF HIS THOUGHT-READING ABILITIES ON US.

MY NAME IS BOBAR. NOW WHERE ARE YOU GOING? YOU NEED NOT SPEAK. I AM READING YOUR MINDS. YOU ARE GOING TO PLANET "X". YOU HAVE NO EVIL DESIGNS AGAINST SATURN—THAT IS GOOD, OR I SHOULD HAVE TO DESTROY YOU. I HAVE BEEN TOLD "X" YOU WILL FIND IT AN AMAZING PLANET—IF I LET YOU GO. SHALL I? THAT DEPENDS UPON OUR RULER'S DESIRE. I SHALL INTRODUCE YOU TO HER, AT ONCE.

OH BUDDY, WE COULDN'T GET AWAY WITH IT! BOBAR HAS CAMPED RIGHT IN OUR OWN CONTROL ROOM, AND HE CAN READ OUR THOUGHTS!

NOT IF WE WEAR HELMETS! REMEMBER HE SAID SO HIMSELF. NOW IF THESE SATURNIANS SLEEP LIKE OTHER PEOPLE—

OH BUDDY, I HOPE IT WORKS!



BOBAR LED US TO ANOTHER CABIN, WHERE ON A TELEVISION SCREEN—

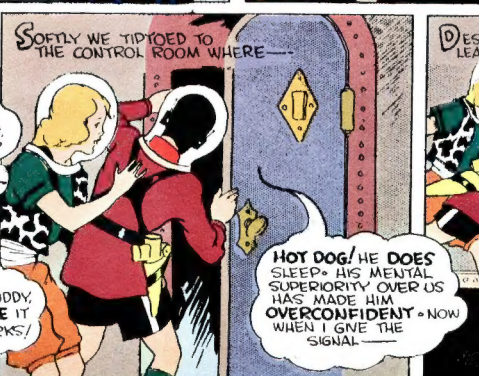
OH SUPREME MAJESTY, I PROJECT TO YOU THE IMAGES OF THESE TWO BEINGS FROM MARS AND EARTH.



I DESIRE TO SEE THEM IN THE FLESH. ALTER YOUR COURSE, AND BRING THEM TO SATURN.

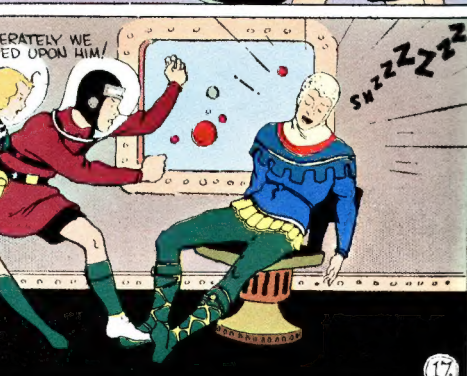
WE DON'T WANT TO GO TO SATURN—YET!

BUT—BUT—



SOFTLY WE TIPTOED TO THE CONTROL ROOM WHERE—

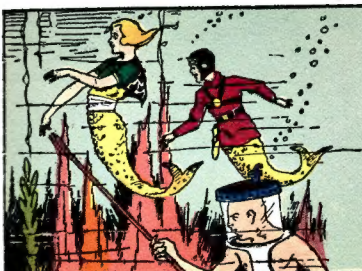
HOT DOG! HE DOES SLEEP. HIS MENTAL SUPERIORITY OVER US HAS MADE HIM OVERCONFIDENT. NOW WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL—



DESPERATELY WE LEAPED UPON HIM!

ZZZZZZZZ





DEAR READER:  
WITH ALURA, PRINCESS OF MARS,  
AND DAV DALL, MOST FAMOUS OF THE  
RED PLANET'S ASTRONOMICAL ENGINEERS,  
I WAS SPEEDING OUT THROUGH THE SOLAR  
SYSTEM TOWARD PLUTO — THE TENTH  
PLANET, WHICH FIRST HAD BEEN SIGHTED  
IN 1930 (SO BUCK ROGERS TOLD ME) AS  
PLANET "X" — BUT WE HAD BEEN CAPTURED  
BY BOBAR AND HIS SATURNIANS, MEN  
OF AMAZING POWERS, WHO COULD READ  
OUR MINDS AND WHO PROTECTED THEM-  
SELVES WITH GLOWING ZONES OF FORCE  
THAT TURNED ASIDE POWERFUL BLOWS.

*Buddy Steiner*

# BUCK ROGERS

IN THE YEAR  
2430 A.D.

By  
PHIL NOWLAN  
AND  
DICK CALKINS

## THE FISH MEN OF PLUTO

**B**OBAR CONSIDERED US MARTIANS AND EARTHLINGS INTERIOR CREATURES. OVERCONFIDENT, HE FELT ASLEEP IN OUR CONTROL ROOM WHILE HIS STRANGE SHIP WHIRLED US TOWARD SATURN. WEARING HELMETS TO "SHORT-CIRCUIT" OUR THOUGHT EMANATIONS, WHICH MIGHT HAVE WARNED HIM, ALURA AND I LEAPED UPON THE SATURNIAN.

"I'VE GOT HIM! QUICK! SLAP YOUR OWN HELMET OVER HIS HEAD."

"THEN HE CAN'T THINK! A WARNING TO HIS OWN SHIP."

"WE HAD HIM TIED UP HELPLESS IN A JIFFY."

"HULLO! WHAT'S THIS? SEE IT GLOW! I KNOW! IT'S THE GENERATOR OF THAT FORCE EMANATION HE USES FOR PROTECTION."

"COME BUDDY! WE'VE GOT TO CUT THE SHIP'S APART AT ONCE."

"WE TURNED A ROCKET BLAST ON THE GREAT FLYWHEEL OF THE SATURNIAN CRAFT."

"THE ROCKET BLAST SLOWED DOWN THE GYROSCOPIC ACTION OF THE GREAT FLYWHEEL. THE GRIP OF THE MAGNETIC GRAPPLERS WEAKENED. OUR CRAFT BEGAN TO WRENCH LOOSE."

"IN A FLASH WE LEFT IT FAR BEHIND, SHOOTING OFF AT A TANGENT TO OUR COURSE AS"

"WE SWUNG AROUND IN A VAST ARC AND AGAIN HEADED FOR PLANET 'X'."

"ON WE FLASHED—DAY AFTER DAY—AT OVER 2,000 MILES PER SECOND."

"PAST URANUS—65 TIMES AS LARGE AS EARTH—AS IT SWUNG SLUGGISHLY AROUND ITS 84-YEAR ORBIT."

"ON—ON—ON. PAST NEPTUNE, 30 TIMES AS FAR FROM THE SUN AS EARTH, DRIFTING SO LAZILY THROUGH SPACE THAT ITS YEAR EQUALS 164 EARTH YEARS."

"BOBAR OF SATURN HAD NO GRUDGE FOR THE WAY WE HAD TURNED THE TABLES ON HIM. HE LEARNED OUR LANGUAGE, AND TAUGHT US MUCH SCIENCE."

"IT MUST BE FROZEN—SO FAR FROM THE SUN."

"NO—BOBAR SAYS IT HAS INTERNAL HEAT."

"VOLCANOES, LIKE?"

"I CAN HELP YOU MUCH WHEN WE REACH PLANET 'X'. I HAVE BEEN THERE. YOU WILL FIND IT A STRANGE—STRANGE PLANET."

"MONTHS PASSED. THEN PLANET 'X' LOOMED BEFORE US—STRANGEST OF PLANETS."

"INTERIOR LIGHT AND WARMTH FLASHED OUT THROUGH HOLES OR CRATERS IN ITS COLD LIFELESS OUTER SHELL."

"WE LANDED AT LAST. THE ENTIRE SURFACE OF THIS WORLD WAS A FROZEN PLAIN, EXCEPT WHERE"

"LOOKS WARM ENOUGH THERE!"

"SEE! THERE! WHERE THE LIGHT SHINES UP!"

"WH—WHY—I RELIEVE IT'S WATER!"

© 1954 DALL, ROGERS, AND STEINER

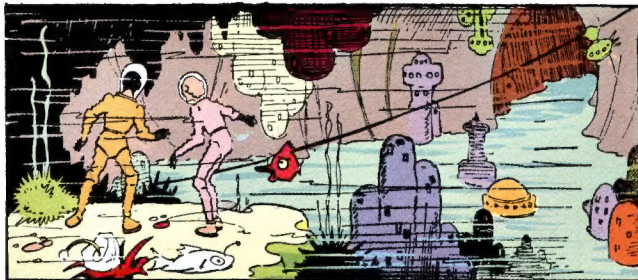
"THEN EVEN AS WE GAZED."

"SIZZLING ROCKETS! A TRAIN OF TANK CARS COMING UP OUT OF A LAKE!"

"WHY IT CAN'T BE! YES IT IS! WHY, BUDDY, THEY'RE FISH MEN!"

"AH QUANT METHOD OF TRANSPORTATION, ISN'T IT? I TOLD YOU YOU'D FIND A STRANGE PLANET."





HERE WE WERE AT LAST—BOBAR OF SATURN, DAY DALL AND PRINCESS ALURA OF MARS, AND MYSELF, BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH—INTER-PLANETARY VICTORS TO PLANET X (OR PLUTO AS ITS DISCOVERERS HAD LATER NAMED IT 500 YEARS BEFORE IN 1930 A.D.)—FAR BEYOND NEPTUNE, BILLIONS OF MILES FROM THE SUN. IT SWUNG THROUGH FAR REACHES OF SPACE, BLEAK, DIM AND COLD. BUT BENEATH ITS GHOSTLY, FROZEN SURFACE, THROUGH ITS VAST, FAR-FLUNG CAVERNS AND TUNNELS, FLOWED LUMINESCENT WATERS, WARMED BY THE PLANET'S INTERIOR HEAT. AND HERE THE FISH MEN OF PLUTO HAD DEVELOPED THEIR AMAZING CIVILIZATION.

# Buck Rogers

2430 A.D.

PAUL HONOLAN  
DICK CALKINS

## THE MENACE FROM BELOW

**A**S BOBAR, ALURA AND I STOOD ON THE FROZEN PLUTONIAN PLAIN, A TRAIN OF TANK CARS FILLED WITH FISH MEN SURGED UP FROM THE WATERS OF THE IRRIDESCENT LAKE, AND

-- SHOT AWAY OVER THE SURFACE OF THE PLANET.

WHY, WHY, THEY WERE BREATHING WATER IN THOSE TANK CARS!

BUT BOBAR, IF THEY LIVE UNDER WATER, WHY DO THEY COME OUT IN THE AIR?

FOR RAPID TRANSIT! THEY CAN'T MOVE SO FAST IN WATER—I CAUGHT A THOUGHT EMANATION FROM THEM. AN OFFICIAL IS COMING UP OUT OF THE LAKE TO WELCOME US.

**A**T THE EDGE OF THE LAKE WE WAITED FOR THE PLUTONIAN OFFICIAL.

WITH THESE TELEPATHOSENSITIERS I MADE YOU, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE MENTALLY WITH HIM AT CLOSE RANGE.

I WISH HE'D COME. I'M GETTING COLD!

--AND WE COME IN PEACE, FROM THE SUNWARD PLANETS, SATURN, MARS AND EARTH.

THERE'S OUR ROCKET-SHIP.

IT'S AS BRIGHT AS DAY DOWN THERE—I CAN SEE EVERYTHING—IT—OH HERE HE COMES!

IN THE NAME OF THE CITIES OF THE UPPER NETWORK, I WELCOME YOU. BUT HOW IS IT THAT I UNDERSTAND YOU?

IT TOOK US MONTHS, TRAVELLING 2,000 MILES A SECOND.

THE FISH-MAN EMERGED WEARING A WATER-TANK HELMET—HE HAD WEBBED HANDS AND FEET.

THE PLUTONIAN'S NAME WAS UR-ULIB. AFTER MUTUAL EXPLANATIONS HE INVITED US BELOW. WE WORE OUR AIR-TIGHT SPACE SUITS.

DON'T BE SCARED, ALURA.

I CAN'T HELP IT—B-BUT I'M NO Q-QUITTER.

OUR SUITS ARE TOO HEAVY TO SWIM, UR-ULIB. WHAT SHALL WE DO?

WALK THEN, WHILE I SWIM ABOVE YOU.

WE DESCENDED INTO AN AMAZING WORLD.

LOOK AT THAT CRAZY FISH!

AND THOSE WONDERFUL SEA-WEED "TREES"!

IT'S FORTUNATE YOU BREATHE WATER INSTEAD OF AIR.

UNTOLD AGES AGO OUR RACE LIVED ON THE SURFACE AND BREATHED AIR. BUT AS OUR WORLD COOLED, WE TOOK TO THE WATER, LITTLE BY LITTLE, TO ESCAPE THE OUTER COLD. WE'RE TOO FAR FROM THE SUN TO GET ITS WARMTH.

**A**T LENGTH WE PASSED THROUGH A TUNNEL AND CAME OUT UPON A MARVELOUS CITY, BUILT UPON THE FLOOR AND ROOF OF A GIGANTIC CAVERN. AIR-FILLED APARTMENTS WERE PREPARED FOR US IN THE UPPER CITY.

HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR QUARTERS?

IT'S JUST LIKE WHAT WE'D CALL A "DIVING BELL" ON EARTH.

IT'S NICE TO FIND YOU PEOPLE SO HUMAN. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

I'M LUL-ULIB, UR-ULIB'S DAUGHTER.

ISN'T THE WATER NICE AND WARM—SAY LUL, WHAT'S THAT BIG HOLE THERE?

THESE WATER-FLOWERS ARE JUST DARLING.

THAT'S THE GATE TO THE LOWER WATERS, WHERE THE FIERCE URBS LIVE.

WE WORE PLUTONIAN GARB WHEN WE WENT ABROAD.

SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING, AN INKY STREAM GUSHED OUT OF THE OPENING.

WHAT IS IT?

QUICK! SWIM FOR IT! IT'S THE POISONED WATER OF THE URBS!





**F**AR, FAR BEYOND NEPTUNE, ON THE RIM OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM WHERE THE WARMTH OF THE SUN IS AS ONLY THE GLEAM OF A TINY STAR, THE PLANET PLUTO SWINGS ETERNALLY THROUGH THE COLD VOID OF SPACE. YET BENEATH ITS FROZEN CRUST, IN THE WARM LUMINESCENT WATERS PERMEATING ITS INTERIOR WE FOUND VIBRANT LIFE, AND AN AMAZING CIVILIZATION OF MEN WHO COUNTLESS GENERATIONS BEFORE HAD LEARNED TO LIVE AND BREATHE UNDER WATER AS THE COLDS OF THE PLANET MADE LIFE IMPOSSIBLE ON THE SURFACE.

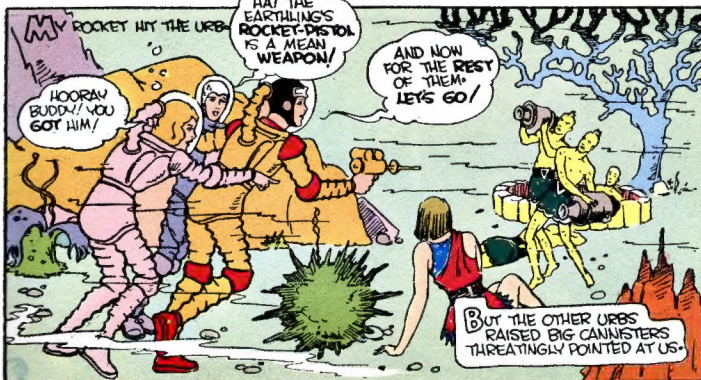
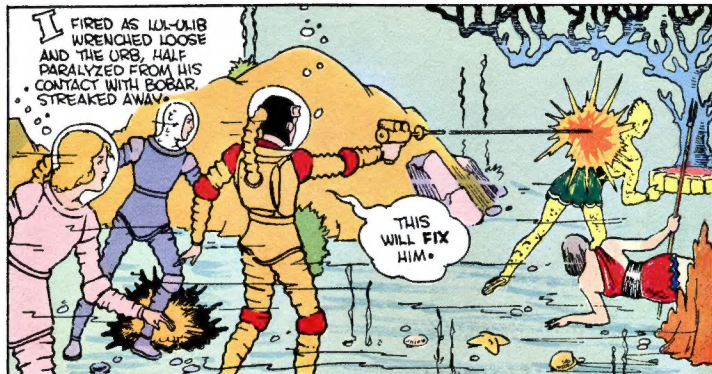
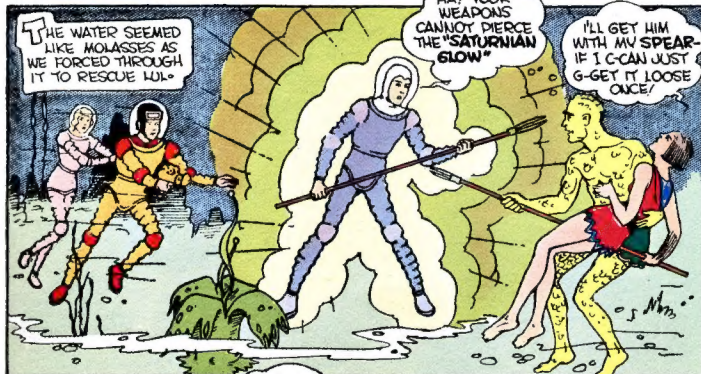
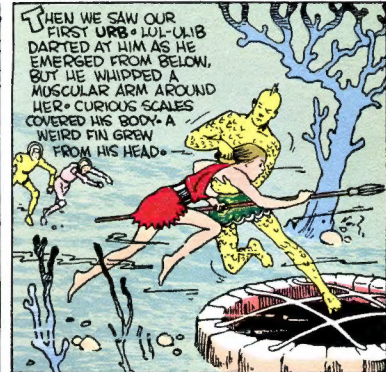
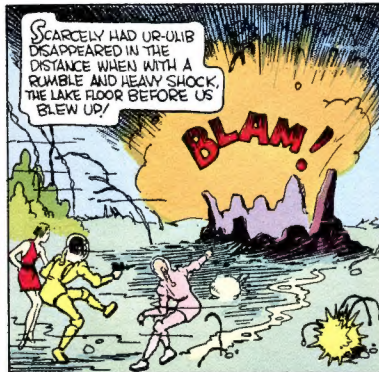
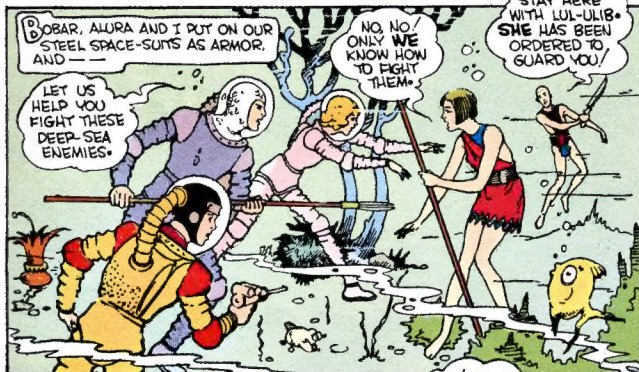
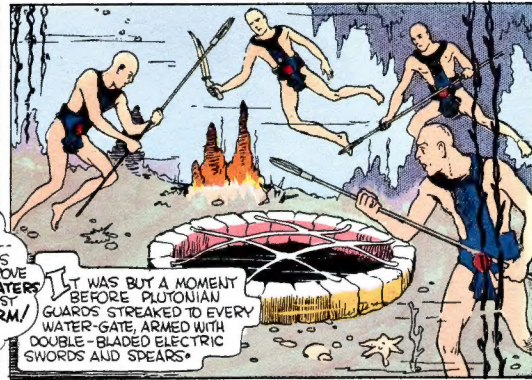
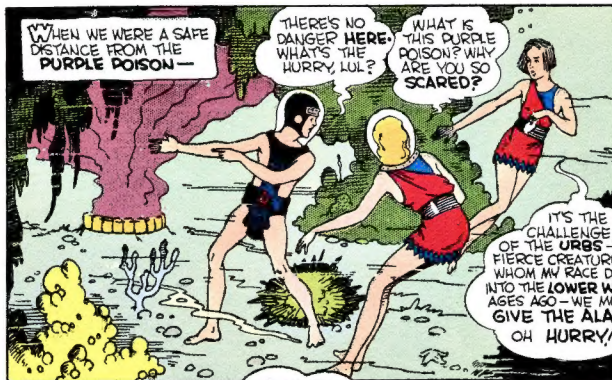
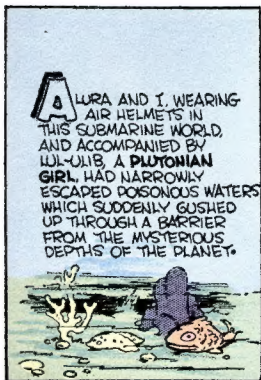
*Buddy Deering*

# BUCK ROGERS

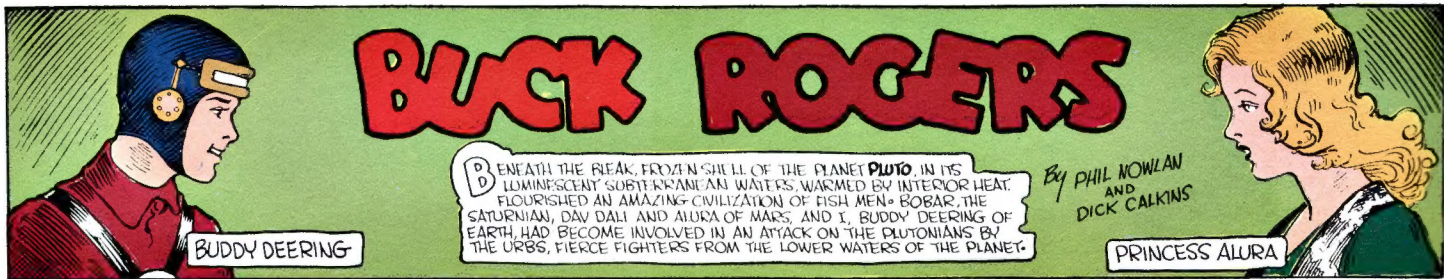
2430 A.D.

By  
PHIL NOWLAN  
AND  
DICK CALKINS

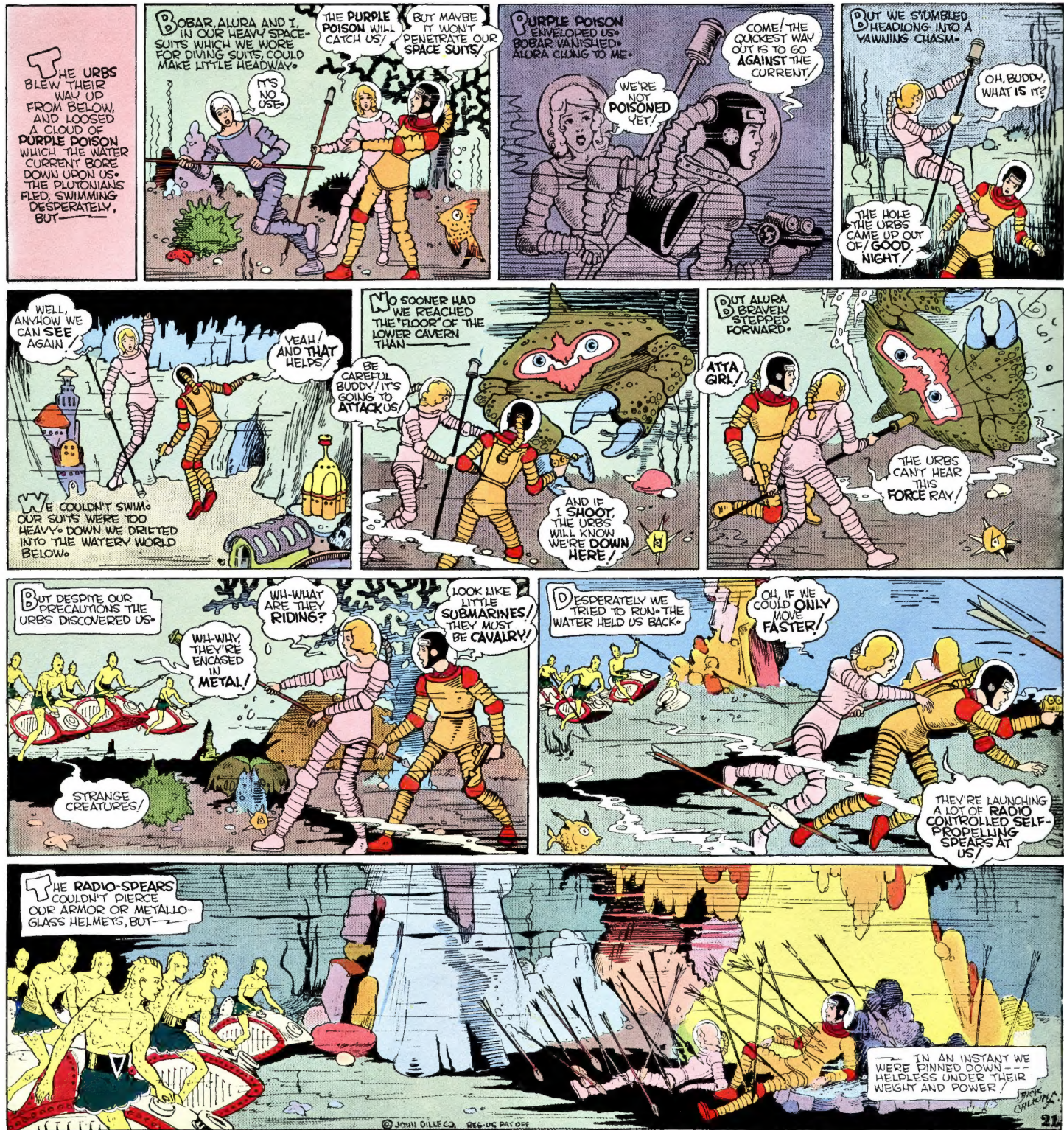
## THE REBELLION OF THE MEDUSAE







## THE RADIO SPEARMEN





WHILE OUR CREW WAITED ON THE COLD BREAK SURFACE OF THE PLANET OUTDO, WONDERING WHAT WOULD BECOME OF US, BOBBY THE SATURNIAN, VAINLY SEARCHED THE WATERS OF THE UPPER NETWORK FOR US—

PHIL NOWLAN

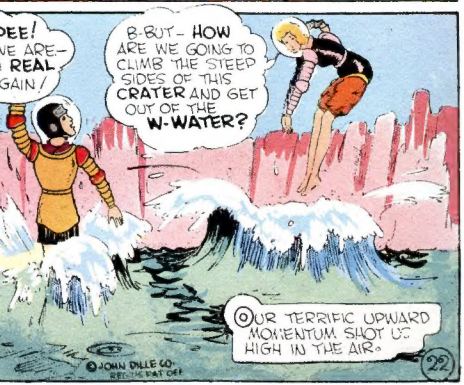
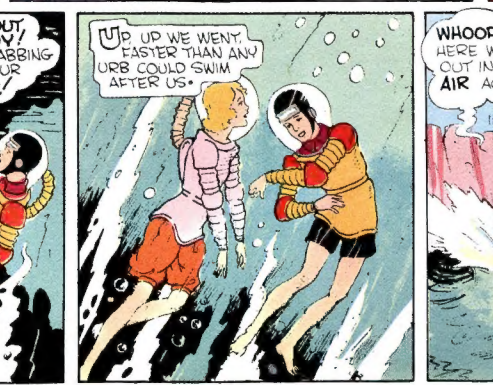
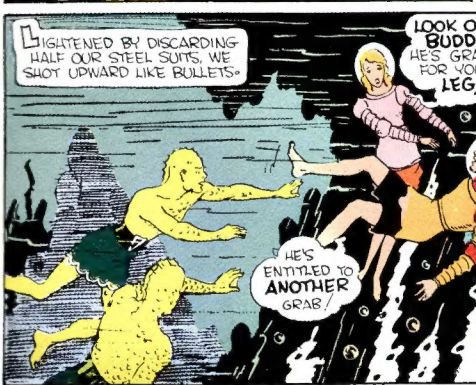
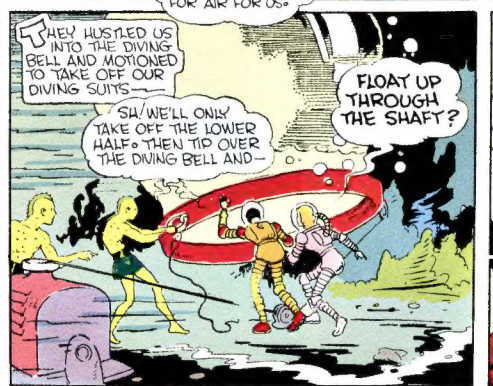
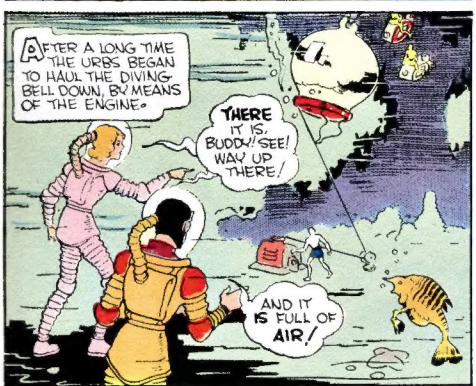
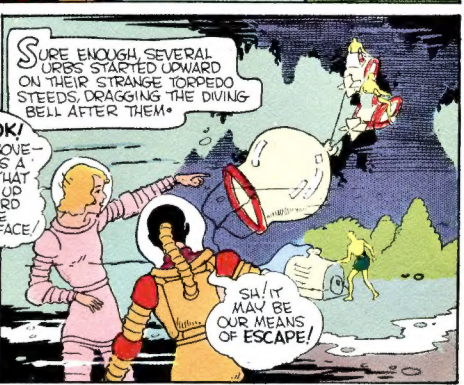
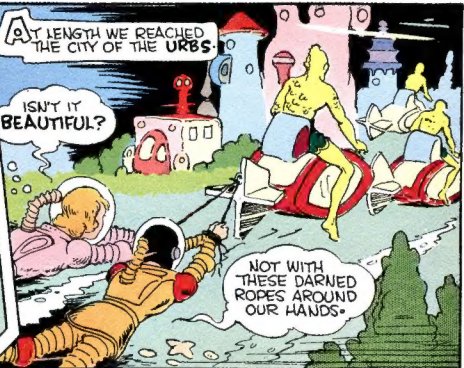
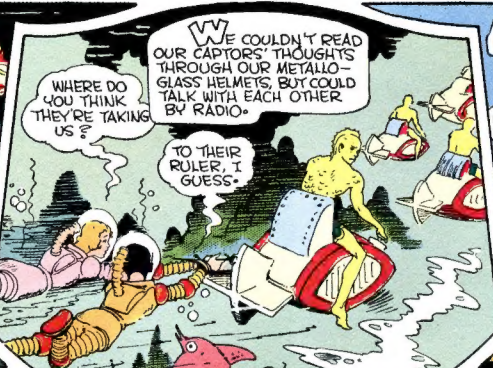
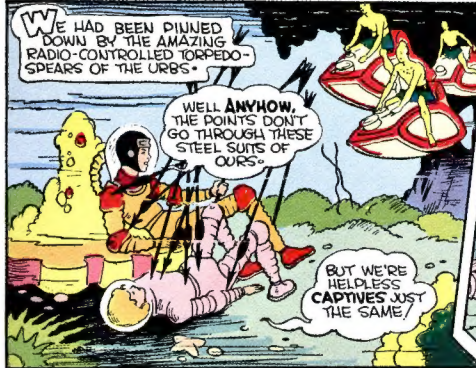
# BUCK ROGERS

DICK CALKINS

WE ACCIDENTALLY PENETRATED THE MISTY LOWER WATERS OF THE PLANET, WHERE WE WERE ATTACKED BY PIERCE URBS, THE AGE OLD ENEMIES OF THE PLUTONIANS.

2430 A.D.

## UP FROM THE DEPTHS







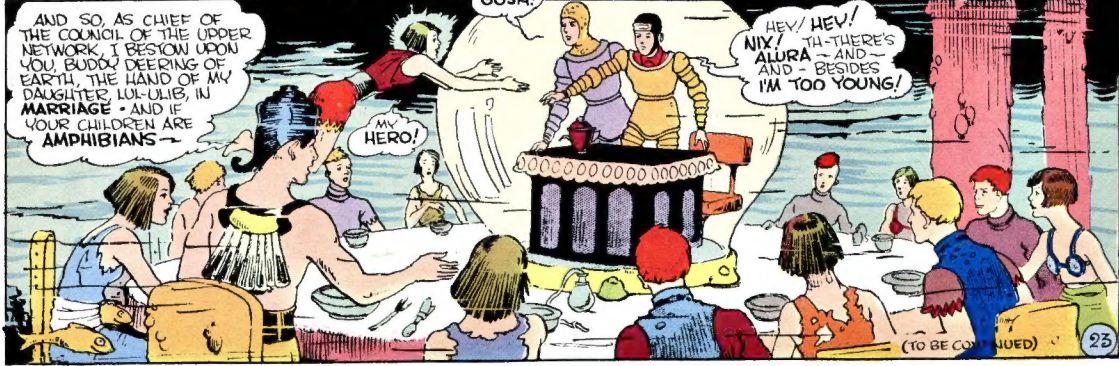
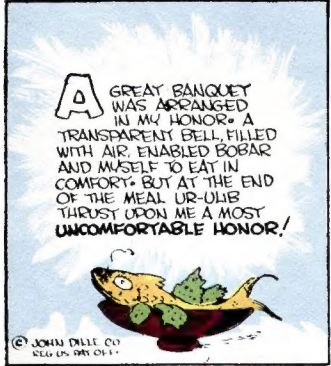
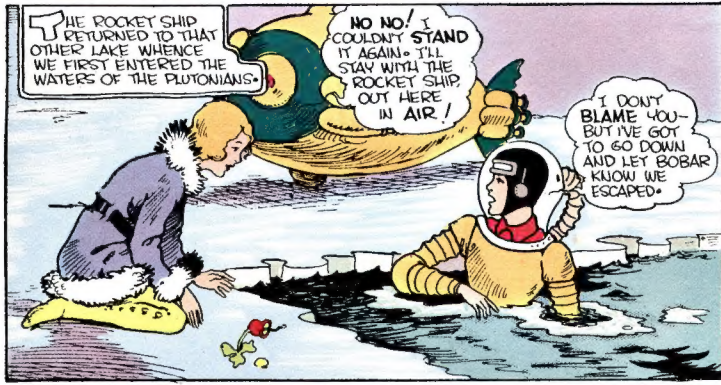
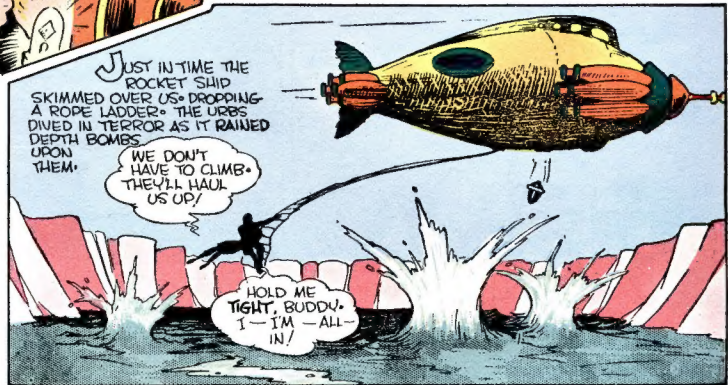
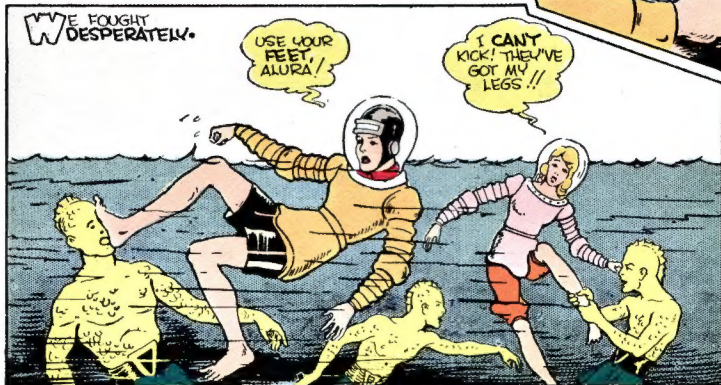
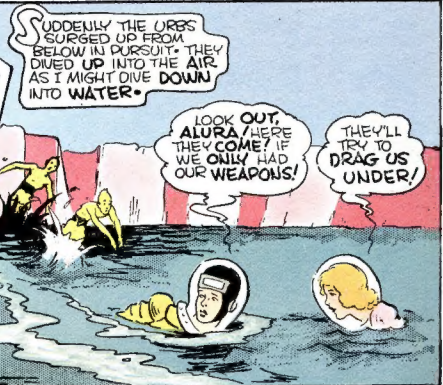
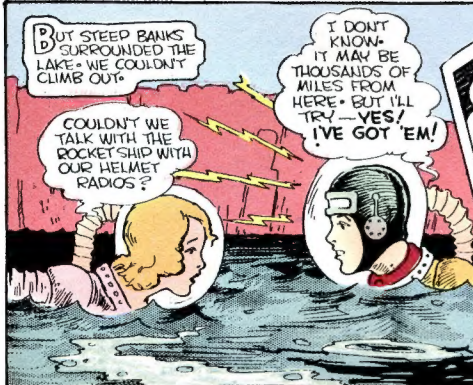
# BUCK ROGERS

2430 A.D.

A LURA AND I HAD ESCAPED FROM THE URBS IN THE LOWER WATERS OF THE PLANET PLUTO, BY SHOOTING UP A WATER SHAFT THAT LED TO ONE OF THOSE LAKES ON THE BLEAK SURFACE OF THIS STRANGE PLANET.

WRITTEN BY: PHIL NOWLAN  
DRAWN BY: DICK CALKINS

## UNWELCOME HONORS





# BUCK ROGERS

2430 A.D.

I HAD MADE THE PLANET PLUTO SAFE FOR PLUTONIANS. WHERE-UPON THEY HAD WELCOMED ME WITH THE MOST UNWELCOME OF HONORS—INSISTING THAT LUL-ULIB, WHO WAS A SORT OF DRINKING AMONG THEM, SHOULD MARRY ME. I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO GET OUT OF IT.

By  
PHIL NOWLAN  
AND  
JACK CALKINS

## FAREWELL TO PLUTO

THE PLUTONIANS WERE GRIMLY DETERMINED I HAD DEFIED THEM. IT WOULD HAVE MEANT VIOLENCE.

TO REFUSE THIS HONOR WOULD BE AN INSULT DESERVING DEATH!

EASY BUDDY, EASY! STALL FOR TIME!

OH, I APPRECIATE THE HONOR, ALL RIGHT, BUT—ER—YOU SEE I'M NOT ACCUSTOMED TO GETTING MARRIED. AND—ER—LET ME HAVE A LITTLE TIME TO THINK IT OVER.

THEY GAVE ME TIME, ALL RIGHT, BUT WE WERE PRACTICALLY PRISONERS IN OUR AIR QUARTERS.

SUDDENLY LUL-ULIB HERSELF LEAPED OUT OF THE WATER—ENTRANCE TO OUR QUARTERS.

WHY-ER-AH—OH-HULLO LUL!

WHOA! WAIT! HE ISN'T MARRIED TO YOU YET!

I KNOW! AND HE DOESN'T WANT TO MARRY! SU—H—H— NEITHER DO I!

A LOT OF GOOD IT DID TO STALL FOR TIME.

YEAH! THEY TOOK OUR AIR HELMETS. WE'RE NOT LOCKED IN, BUT IF WE SWIM OUT, WE DROWN!

I CAME TO AN UNDERSTANDING WITH LUL.

YOU'RE A NICE KID, LUL! GEE IT'S GOOD YOU'RE SO SENSIBLE!

IT WOULD BE RIDICULOUS FOR YOU TWO TO MARRY. WHY DON'T YOU EVEN BREATHE THE SAME ELEMENT!

NO! ONE OF US WOULD HAVE TO STRANGLE TO EVERY TIME WE TRIED TO KISS EACH OTHER! I'LL HELP YOU TO ESCAPE!

SHE SHOWED US HOW WE MIGHT GET TO THE SURFACE OF THE PLANET.

GOOD-BYE LUL! YOU'RE A PEACH. IF YOU EVER GET TO EARTH, LOOK ME UP.

YOU'LL ALWAYS FIND A WELCOME ON SATURN!

GOOD-BYE!

WE WERE TO USE THE WATER HELMETS AS AIR HELMETS.

YEAH, BUT THEY'VE GOT NO OXYGEN GENERATORS. WHY DIDN'T SHE BRING US OUR OWN HELMETS?

WE'RE LUCKY TO GET ANY. I GUESS THEY DESTROYED OURS OR LOCKED THEM UP.

THERE WAS NO GUARD TO STOP US. WE GOT OUT EASILY. STEALTHILY WE PUSHED TOWARD THE WATER SHAFT UP TO THE LAKE.

GOOD WE BROUGHT THESE STONES ALONG TO WEIGH US DOWN!

WE CAN DROP THEM IN A MINUTE AND SHOOT TO THE SURFACE!

ONCE UNDER THE SHAFT WE DROPPED THE STONES AND SHOT UPWARD—

HERE WE GO!

THEY CAN'T CATCH US NOW!

WE CAME SO FAST WE SHOT INTO THE AIR.

B—R—R—R—R!

SAFE ON TOP AT LAST!

WH-WHY IS MY BUDDY—AND BOBAR!

QUICK! DAY! SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED!

WHAT'S THE MATTER!

WE'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM THIS PLANET QUICK!

SURE! LET'S GO!

AND NO FOOLING!

WE SCRAMBLED ABOARD THE ROCKET SHIP AND STREAKED FOR EARTH. THE LONG DREARY TRIP PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT, EXCEPT THAT—

WE'RE NEAR SATURN NOW. MIGHT I USE YOUR RADIOPHONE TO CALL SOME OF MY FRIENDS?

SURE—WHY NOT? HELP YOURSELF!

LITTLE DID I REALIZE THE TERRIBLE DANGERS WE WERE TO FACE BACK ON EARTH AS A RESULT OF BOBAR'S RADIO TALK WITH HIS FRIENDS ON SATURN.

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COMING!

AS WE GAZED, AN AMAZING THING HAPPENED.

WHY—IT'S WHITE HOT MELTING AND FLOWING AWAY!

SOMEONE HAS DELIBERATELY DESTROYED IT! WHO? WHY?

JACK CALKINS

24